

COMMENT OF
THE DAY

Action At Last

THE mills of Government
Invariably grind slowly
and they certainly haven't
been working overtime on
the proposal, advanced at
least three years ago, that
technical traffic offences be
handled in such a way as
to leave magistrates more
time with which to deal
with more important cases.
But if action has been tardy,
it is, now that it has been
taken, nonetheless welcome.
Under a new Ordinance
which received its first
reading this week, it will be
possible for motorists guilty
of trivial infringements of
the traffic regulations to
acknowledge their offence
on a prescribed form,
enclose the prescribed fine,
and despatch both to the
appropriate court without
having to appear before a
magistrate.

This is going to save a lot of
time for everybody concerned
and simultaneously will
serve the ends of justice. It
will not only benefit the
magistrates, who are over-
burdened trying to deal
with all sorts of cases,
serious as well as trivial,
but will be helpful to those
offenders who, while pre-
pared to plead guilty and
pay a fine, at the present
often have to spend hours
in a magistracy waiting for
their case to be heard.

FOUR types of minor traffic
offences come within the
provisions of the new
ordinance. They are:
leaving a vehicle unattended
in contravention of the
Vehicles and Traffic Regula-
tions; unnecessary obstruction;
falling to stop near the
left side of the road
when depositing a passen-
ger or a load; improper
parking.

This is a modest list of mild
offences and could conceivably
be expanded. But it is a
start in the right direction.
The fines are fair and the
ordinance provides
safeguards for both alleged
offenders and the Crown.
There seems to be no reason
why the new legislation
should not fulfil a very useful
purpose.

THE Objects and Reasons
which accompany the Bill
include an arresting sentence.
"At present," it is
observed, "the offences so
specified are traffic-offences
only. This hints at the
possibility of similar legisla-
tion being extended to
trivial offences committed
by members of the public
other than drivers."

This trends difficult ground
and considerable thought
will need to be given to the
suggestion of expanding the
system of "self-judgment"
to embrace other than
strictly technical traffic
offences.

The fundamental aim of this
type of legislation is to help
relieve the magistrates' courts
of tiresome trivialities;
nevertheless the most
effective means of dealing
with petty offenders is to
have summary courts func-
tioning night as well as day.
Admittedly that is a pretty
tall order, but we endorse
the idea because considerable
doubt exists whether the
legislation applicable to
minor traffic offences can
be practically applied to
petty offences of a general
nature.

Portrait Of The Prime Minister

WHAT is the feeling about Sir Anthony Eden as a poli-
tician, a statesman and a Prime Minister? What are
his problems and how is he fitted to deal with them? Does
he hold an uneasy balance of power in his cabinet — or is
he the undisputed master?

These are some of the many questions British people are
asking. And in tomorrow's China Mail, Sir Beverley Baxter gives
you a picture of the Eden of today as he is seen at Westminster.
This is only one of the many topical features you will find
in tomorrow's feature-packed China Mail. Here are some others:

- ★ D. T. Baker-Carr.
Is your husband a candidate for disaster? Chapman
Pincher sounds a warning, revealing the alarming truth
about the biggest problem facing medicine today.
- ★ Why are women afraid of humours? Is it because they
think men might not take them seriously? Amanda
Marshall answers.
- There are all your favourite features as well including the
latest film reviews, three pages of local and overseas pictures,
cartoons, comic strips, sports news, women's news, children's news
— and Glee — all in the CHINA MAIL.

Labour Party Conference Acclaims New National Plan

BIGGER PENSIONS FOR ALL

Richard Crossman's
Ambitious Scheme

INCOME EQUAL TO
HALF SALARY

Margate, Oct. 13.

The Labour Party annual conference
today swept aside its internal quarrelling to
acclaim a new plan which would give every
Briton an income equal to half his salary
once he retired from work.

This revolutionary extension on the
"welfare state" was put to the conference
by Mr Richard Crossman, left-wing member
of the national executive, Labour's ruling
body.

It foreshadowed, in broad outline, the legislation a
future Labour government would try to put into force.
The proposal is for a state-run national superan-
nuation scheme to supplement the basic state pension—
£2 a week—now paid to men retiring at the age of 65
and women at 60.

LION TAMER
SAVAGED

London, Oct. 13.

Charles Elleneb, the principal
animal trainer of the Billy Smart circus, was at-
tacked here tonight during
a performance by "Caesar",
one of the lions in his act.

Three thousand spectators
watched in silent anguish as
Elleneb, another lion in the act,
prepared to change the wounded
animal trainer, when Walter
Milde, Elleneb's German assistant,
rushed to the fallen man's aid.

Milde, carrying Elleneb on his
back, slowly backed out of the
cage with only his sharp gaze to
hold off the angry beasts. A few
seconds later, Milde came back,
into the cage alone and forced
the lions into their cages with
his voice alone. The spectators
applauded wildly.

Elleneb, an Austrian, was
taken to a London hospital
where he underwent an
emergency operation. His con-
dition was described as critical.

The same lion, "Caesar", at-
tacked the trainer during a
performance a year ago and
lacerated his arms and
shoulders. Nevertheless, "Caesar"
will go unpunished as the
attack is merely considered
"one of the risks of the
trade".—France-Press.

SOVIET OFFER

Beirut, Oct. 13.

The Soviet Union offered to-
day to develop its trade with
the Lebanon and to grant
eventually to Lebanon any
economic or technical assistance
it might need, informed sources
said.

The offer was contained in a
note which the Soviet Minister
in the Lebanon, Vassili Bellayev,
handed to the acting Premier,
Rachid Karamé, during a 15-
minute meeting, these sources
said.—France-Press.



RICHARD CROSSMAN

SOMETHING TO
THINK ABOUT

Moscow, Oct. 13.

Mr Valeriy Zorin, Soviet
Deputy Foreign Minister,
asked about President
Eisenhower's interim letter
on disarmament to the
Soviet Prime Minister, said
today: "We must think
about it before we express
an opinion."

He said the letter was
forwarded today to Marshal
Nikolai Bulganin's re-
sidence in the Crimea, and
would probably be
published in the Soviet
press soon.

The letter, written by the
all-American President
and his aides, was an in-
terim reply to one from
Marshal Bulganin suggest-
ing limitations to the
President's "open skies"
plan for mutual American-
Soviet inspection.

Mr Zorin was answering
questions by reporters at a
reception at the Luxem-
bourg Legation here in
honour of the parlia-
mentary delegation now
visiting Russia.—Reuter.

Townsend Visits
Clarence House
To See Princess

London, Oct. 13.

Princess Margaret and Group Captain Peter
Townsend met for the first time for nearly three
years here tonight.

The 41-year-old Brussels Air Attache, rumoured
to be in love with the Princess, drove his car
to Clarence House, home of Princess Margaret
and the Queen Mother, shortly before 7 p.m.

His visit gave fresh impetus to speculation that
an official statement will soon be issued about the
future of the princess and the wartime air ace.

Princess Margaret returned to London today from her
long summer holiday in Scotland. Group Captain Town-
send arrived from Brussels on leave yesterday.

The couple had last met
shortly before Townsend was
posted to Brussels as Air
Attache in 1953.

The Air Attache arrived at
Clarence House in his green
Renault car which he had
brought from Brussels. He
parked it in the courtyard and
ran smoothly through the door-
way of Clarence House.

He arrived just before
Princess Margaret and her
mother sat down to dinner.
Townsend left Clarence House
at 8.30 p.m. after about 90
minutes.

He drove his car himself.
Townsend's posting to Brus-
sels followed shortly after the
coronation of Queen Elizabeth
and was referred to by some
newspapers as "exile".

He has since made no definite
statement on his reported
romance with Princess Margaret
and Buckingham Palace has
remained silent.

Some newspapers have sug-
gested that the Prime Minister,
Mr. Aneurin Bevan, left-wing
leader, who advocated that the
whole cost of social insurance
should be transferred to the
national exchequer, cutting out
the compulsory weekly contribu-
tions made by workers and
employers.

Archbishop Freed

Vienna, Oct. 13.

Monsignor Josef Groesz,
Archbishop of Kalocsa
in Hungary, has been released
from prison, Budapest radio an-
nounced tonight.

Mgr. Groesz is the second
Hungarian church dignitary to
be released recently. The first
was Cardinal Mindszenty, who
was given "provisional liberty"
on July 10.—France-Press.

AFRO-ASIAN NATIONS
DO IT AGAIN IN UN

United Nations, Oct. 13.

Asian and African delegates, backed by the Latin
American and Soviet bloc, today beat down an attempt
to sidetrack another explosive United Nations debate
on colonial issues.

By a vote of 38 to 18, with
three abstentions, the UN Social,
Humanitarian and Cultural
Committee voted to start im-
mediately with an article by
article review of the controver-
sial draft covenants on human
rights. This review will bring
up for debate at once the
principle of self-determination,
a basic issue in the anti-
colonialism campaign, which
dominates the current UN
Assembly session.

MISGIVINGS

The vote rejected a suggestion
by the Secretary-General, Mr.
Dag Hammarskjöld, that the
question of self-determination—
the right of people to choose
their own political, economic,
social and cultural status—is
"political controversy". Mr.
Hammarskjöld expressed grave
misgivings about the develop-
ment of debate on this issue.

BOY DIES OF STARVATION THROUGH
PARENT'S ALLEGED NEGLECT

New Orleans, Oct. 13.

A six-year-old boy died of
starvation today in this city
famous for its fine foods. His
last words were a piteous plea
for a sandwich.
Police said an older brother was
in critical condition from
malnutrition.
William Baughman, 12-year-old
unemployed longshoreman,
and his 18-year-old wife
had fed the family on \$7 a
week provided by her Church.
and five others, were arrested
on charges of criminal neglect.
Juvenile officers said the two
boys apparently had "lived
hungry" for weeks, foraging
through the carnival city's
dustbins for what scraps they
could salvage.
Mrs. Baughman said her husband
had been ill for a month from
a nervous disorder and she
had fed the family on \$7 a
week provided by her Church.
Doctors said William Baughman,
Jr., 6, died before dawn today
after complaining of hunger.
The other boy was identified as
Laurence, 7.
"Is there anything we can do
for you, son?" one doctor
asked William.
"Yes, Mr.," said the boy, "Get
me a ham sandwich."
A short time later he was dead.
—United Press.

Sailor's
Slow Death
Described
In Diary

San Diego, Oct. 13.
A crudely written diary
today told the story of the
slow death of an American
sailor in the badlands of
Mexico following the crash
of his light plane.

The body of the flyer, William
E. Falls, 22, was found by a
private pilot. Alongside was
the diary which told of 11 days
of torture by thirst and starva-
tion.

A copy of the battered diary
was obtained and copyrighted
by the San Diego Union. A
role on the first page asked that
it be delivered to Charles
Schreiber of El Cajon, California.
The first page also told of
Falls' running, out of gas and
crashing, on September 10.

FIRST NIGHT

The first night, Falls said, he
built a fire and kept it going
until he could find nothing more
to burn. Later he told of going
swimming in the Gulf of Cali-
fornia and of seeing planes over-
head.

On the third day Falls wrote:
"I would like you to tell my
mother that it took days with-
out water or food to get her son.
Will you see that they pour a
glass of water on me?"

On September 22 he wrote:
"Take me back dad (sic) or
alive. Of that I have no con-
trol. If I can't be alive with my
mother please take me and lay
me by the side of my father.
If I'm found in time, I would
like a hamlet (sic) just like he
had—same place, same name
and brother. Rock to say the
words."

CRAVING THIRST

After the seventh day, Falls
wrote in the diary became
shorter. On September 26 he
wrote: "This is sure a hell of a
way to go, Chuck, with nobody,
having nothing, wanting every-
thing. What a man wouldn't
give for a drink of water or a
big dish of ice cream!"

On September 27 he wrote
simply: "Still dead. West-
Dumb weak." On the last page
of the book contained only the
date "9/29/55"—United Press.

STOP PRESS

US JET PLANE
CRASHES

Tokyo, Oct. 14.
A United States F-86F
Sabrejet crashed on
Okinawa early this morning,
killing the pilot.

An official air force an-
nouncement said the pilot
was performing "a routine
proficiency flight" when the
plane crashed.

The aircraft was assigned
to the 57th fighter bomber
squadron of the 18th fighter
bomber wing at the Kadena
air base, Okinawa.—Reuter.

REDS FREE
A RED

Friedland, Oct. 13.

Kurt Mueller, former deputy
chairman of the West German
Communist Party who dis-
appeared in Berlin in 1950, re-
turned here today in a group of
26 German prisoners from
Russia.

Mueller, 42, arrived in the
group of prisoners who had
been held at Vladimir prison
near Moscow. Another of them
was the Nazi gauleiter of
Magdeburg—Anhalt, Rudolf
Jordan.

Mueller, who looked tired and
strained, told reporters that he
had been lured to East Berlin
and was arrested there by East
German state security officials
on March 22, 1950.

He said he was put on a
"rigged trial" instigated by
Beria and Abakumov, the Soviet
secret police chief and his de-
puty, who were later executed.
Asked whether he was still a
Communist, he said: "No com-
ment."—Reuter.

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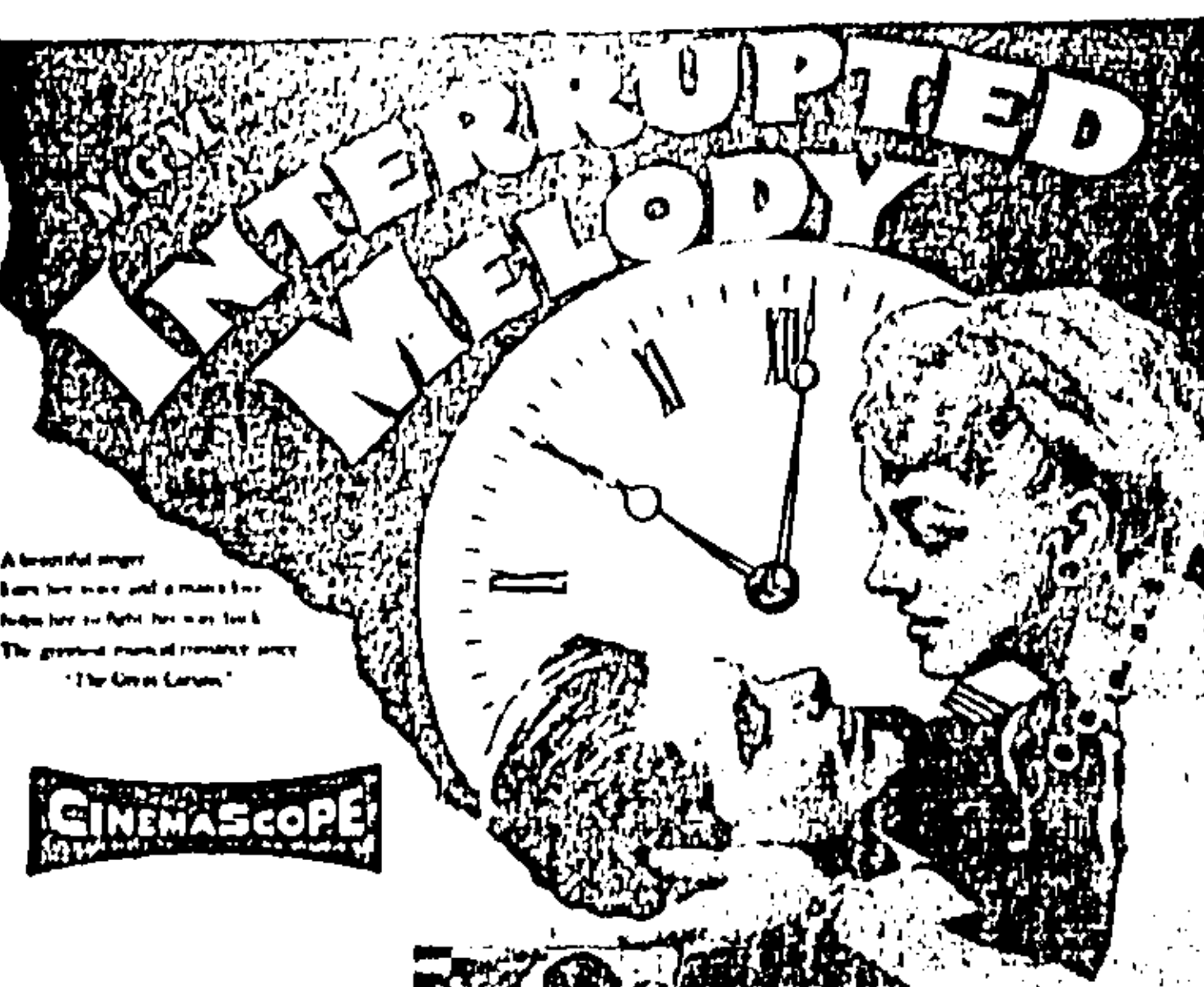
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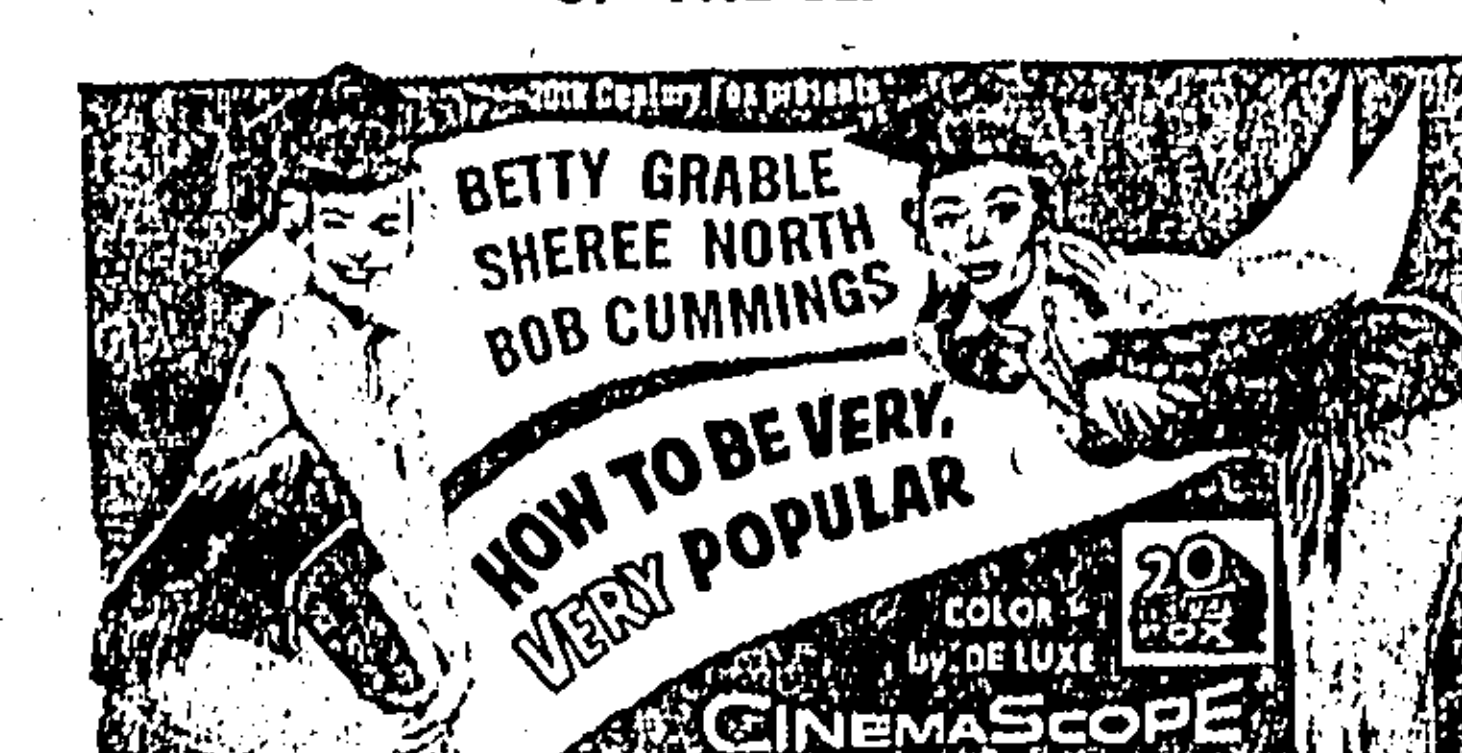
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ULYSSES

West German Foreign Minister Satisfied With Situation

WAR DEAD HONOURED



The Cenotaph at Whitehall, London, which commemorates the war dead of the British Commonwealth was the scene of a wreath-laying ceremony by the military pharmacists of 16 countries in London to attend an international congress. Shown placing the wreath is Colonel Pharmacist Spengler, Chief Pharmacist to the Swiss Army. Other countries represented were: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, West Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Japan, Sweden, Thailand, the United States and Yugoslavia. The military pharmacists are now forming into a special section of the International Pharmaceutical Federation to study military pharmacy on an international basis.—Express Photo.

WEST'S WAR ORGANISATION

Monty Overstated His Case Says US Secretary

Washington, Oct. 13. Mr. Charles Wilson, United States Defence Secretary, said today Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery had overstated his case yesterday in a speech urging complete revision of the West's organisation for war.

(Lord Montgomery, addressing the Royal United Service Institution in London, said it was essential to bring the three arms of the Services closer together and eventually even to combine them into one integrated defence force. He also said that in the event

of war there should be a supreme air command for the whole global air war).

Mr. Wilson, replying to reporters' questions today, said he had not read Lord Montgomery's speech, but that "with all due deference to the Marshal, he is overstating it (the case) to make progress in the right direction."

Mr. Wilson returned today from the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation defence ministers' meeting in Paris.

He said he thought a united aircraft warning system similar to that operated by the United States and Canada was needed for Western Europe.

He made the suggestion in answer to questions about reports of a secret briefing given in Paris recently by General Alfred Gruenther, NATO's Supreme Commander. In that talk, the General was reported to have said that lack of a unified air defence system was a weakness in Western defence.

Answering a question about Britain's decision on a 12½ per cent reduction in military strength during the next three years, Mr. Wilson said he assumed it reflected the problem all nations now face.

When a reporter asked Mr. Wilson about "scare stories" regarding the defence situation as outlined to the meeting, Mr. Wilson replied that he did not think the Western military leaders were alarmed.—Reuter.

NO REDUCTION OF TENSION

Bonn, Oct. 13. Dr Heinrich von Brentano, West German Foreign Minister, said here today he was satisfied to see during his recent visit to the United States that the West would make no attempt to reduce international tension without removing its cause including the division of Germany.

He said building a European security system without solving the German problem would amount to "papering over cracks."

"I am deeply satisfied that this question has entered so profoundly into the consciousness of public opinion in the United States. We have every reason to be satisfied."

He told a press conference: "We are not opposed to a reduction of tension."

A Warning
"We are merely standing by to raise a warning if we believe that a wrong path is chosen. We want to prevent a repetition of development such as that leading to the Munich agreement of 1938."

The press conference was in the nature of a report on Dr von Brentano's conversations with the Western foreign ministers in New York and with the United States Government.

Dr von Brentano said that the atmosphere of the talks satisfied him completely—they were friendly and open. He had placed special emphasis on the German wish that the Geneva conference should open with a "concrete and constructive" proposal for the solution of the German problem and the simultaneous creation of a European security system. There was agreement on this between the conferring foreign ministers, Dr von Brentano said.

Dr von Brentano said he had found "no misunderstandings in official (American) circles about the aims and results" of Dr Konrad Adenauer's Moscow negotiations and his agreement to establish diplomatic relations between West Germany and the Soviet Union.

Succeeded
"But there had been misunderstandings and doubt in United States public opinion whether the Moscow agreement heralded a change in the line of West German foreign policy."

"I believe I succeeded in dispelling these doubts. I need not repeat here that the Moscow agreement involves no transformation or even modification of our foreign policy line."

"On the contrary, I am more firmly than ever convinced that the line we have followed in the past years is correct and that it is vitally important to pursue it."

Dr von Brentano said that negotiations with the Soviet Union about the technicalities of setting up embassies in each other's capitals would probably start in Paris next week. He refused to go into further details.

In reply to question, he said that the foreign ministers were agreed that a re-united Germany must have the right to decide freely on its alliances. There was no doubt which system of alliances Germany preferred, Dr von Brentano said.

No Secret
"This is no secret and the Soviet Union, too, knows it," he said.

Asked whether any limitation of armaments within the proposed security system would infringe re-united Germany's freedom of decision, Dr von Brentano said this would not be so if the limitation were voluntarily accepted. "As an example he cited the West German renunciation of certain types of armaments and the limitation of her forces to 500,000 which had been freely accepted.—Reuter.

JAP VOLCANO ERUPTS

Tokyo, Oct. 13. The Central Meteorological Observatory said Sakurajima, a volcanic island in Kagoshima Bay, Kyushu, erupted today. The observatory said it was the first time since 1046.

Later today police said 275 school children whose lives had been threatened returned home safely. The school children were making an excursion trip when the island erupted.—China Mail Special.

Security Council

Seating RUSSIA CRITICISES AMERICA

New York, Oct. 13. THE Soviet Union today criticised a move to seat the Philippines in the Security Council in place of Turkey whose term expires at the end of the year.

Mr Vasily Kuznetsov, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, told a press conference that he hoped Poland would be chosen.

He said the move in support of the Philippines—by the United States, though he did not expressly name that country—was in violation of the United Nations Charter and the "gentlemen's agreement" reached in London in 1946 for equitable geographical distribution of seats.

The General Assembly votes tomorrow to choose successors to Turkey, New Zealand and Brazil.

Nominations

Australia and Cuba have been nominated for these last two seats.

Asked if the Soviet Union would support Australia and Cuba, Mr Kuznetsov replied that his government holds to the procedure which is laid down by the Charter in Article 23 and also the 1946 gentlemen's agreement, and does not intend to depart from these international agreements.

Since New Zealand now occupies the so-called Commonwealth seat and Brazil the Latin American one, this reply was taken as meaning that the Soviet Union would vote for Australia and Cuba as their successors.—Reuter.

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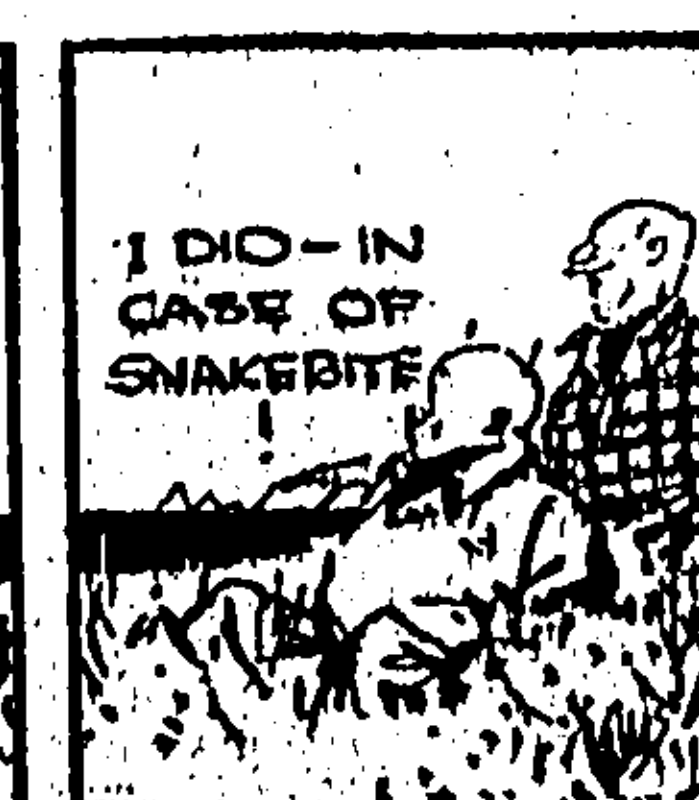
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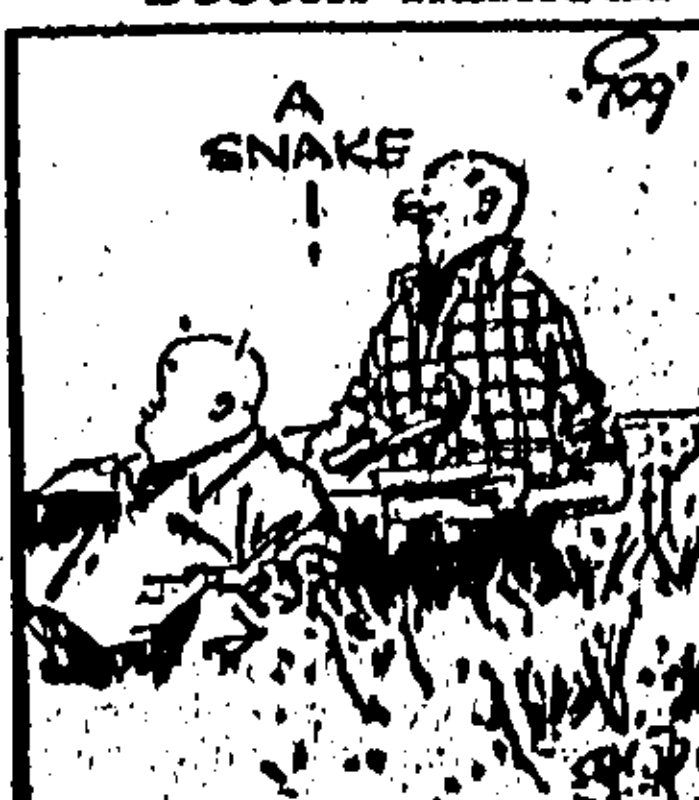
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Scotch humour



FOUR FRENCH ARMY COLUMNS ON MOVE

Troops Encircle Riff Rebels In Frontier Area

Fierce Resistance Expected From Tribesmen

Rabat, Oct. 13.

French troops and armoured cars took up positions along the frontier of Spanish Morocco today to cut off rebellious tribesmen in the Riff mountains who rose against France 10 days ago.

Four army columns were reported to be lining the frontier along the area of insurrection, completing the encirclement of rebels in the "guerilla triangle" formed by Aknoul, Boure and Tizi Ouzli, in North-east Morocco.

KOREA TAXATION

Possible Relief For Americans

Washington, Oct. 13. The taxation of United States business men in South Korea, which has been a source of friction between the two governments concerned, may shortly be satisfactorily settled, a United States State Department spokesman said here tonight.

Informed sources said here tonight that the United States Ambassador in Seoul, Mr. William Lacy, was thought to have sent a letter to South Korean President Syngman Rhee on September 22, after failing to receive satisfaction from Korean officials about the taxation rates.

These sources added that President Rhee merely passed Mr. Lacy's letter on to the Foreign Ministry without replying to it.

The American Government spokesman denied a rumour that Mr. Lacy was about to be recalled, but said that if the Ambassador, who is in poor health, asked to return to the United States for medical treatment, his request would be sympathetically received.—France-Press.

The columns linked after a small pace advance over difficult ground. Some French Foreign Legion troops led by Colonel Francis Breille were forced to scale Mount Merzouk, which rises to 5,700 feet.

8,000 Troops

An estimated 8,000 French troops were tonight beginning to clean up the interior of the triangle. Rebels entrenched on the crests of the sand-coloured hills are expected to put up fierce resistance.

Officials said tribesmen who have earlier fled from their mountain villages at the first sound of gunfire were now returning in great numbers.

South of the Riff mountains, about 100 Marmoucha tribesmen from the Middle Atlas were reported to be trying to break through north to link with the Riffian rebels.

Strong detachments of troops are deployed south of Taza, French strategic centre, to stop the Marmouchas.

The French authorities announced last night that they had arrested 19 terrorists alleged to be members of four cells operating in Casablanca, Fedala and Agadir.

One of the cells, called "Hand of Muhammad," made its own bombs and used them in 18 attacks in which eight people were injured during the past year, they said.

Other Victims

Other victims of terrorism during the past 24 hours included Hadj Ahmed Ben Rhacem, a member of the government council, who was mortally wounded by gunfire in an Arab market near Settat.

Terrorists shot dead a month-old baby and her two teenage brothers in Rabat. Their father is a Moroccan journalist working for a pro-French newspaper.—Reuter.

Eisenhower Shows Big Improvement

Denver, Oct. 13.

President Eisenhower showed such improvement today that he had his first cup of coffee since his heart attack and waved at fellow patients.

The President's doctors in their 1900 GMT bulletin said that his morning examinations continued to show his "temperature, pulse and blood pressure to be normal" and added: "His cardiogram now shows well advanced evolutionary changes."

This apparently means that the healing processes have been very satisfactory.

In Sun

The President's bed was rolled out to a terrace porch on the eighth floor and he spent 35 minutes in the warm sun. His bed was raised to the point where he could raise his right hand in a wave to a dozen or more other patients of Fitzsimons Army Hospital on the lawn eight floors below. Scores of gifts and hundreds of messages began arriving at the hospital as he and Mrs. Eisenhower prepared to celebrate the President's 65th birthday tomorrow.—Reuter.

Wine Growers Elect Queen



The picturesque town of Krems on the River Danube was the scene of Austria's first ever "Wine-Grower Queen" contest. Winner was luscious young Eleonore Seltsch of Koenigsbrunn, pictured here after her election. All contestants were not only pretty, but experienced in the wine-growing industry. Taking part in the contest were representatives from the five most important wine-growing districts in Lower Austria.—Express Photo.

HID WITH HER AUNT

Fame Was Too Much For 8-Year-Old Artist

London, Oct. 13. NEWSMEN and photographers were streaming up the tiny path of a Council house garden at Kingston on Thames today seeking an eight-year-old girl whose painting has made her the rage of Japan.

But little Maria Hennessy, whose picture of "Mummy at the Ball" won the acclaim of critics and public throughout Japan, was hiding in another house, afraid of the fame her painting had brought.

While her mother dealt with requests for her to broadcast for the British Broadcasting Corporation and to appear on television, she stayed with an aunt, afraid there were "butterflies in her tummy."

Maria has been hitting the headlines in the British press since Japanese Embassy officials launched a campaign to find her and give her a prize for her entry in a Mothers' Day competition run by a Japanese sugar company and the United Nations. Her signature was illegible but experts were sure her painting was the work of an eight-year-old girl. Maria was found after her painting had been flashed on the television screen by the British Broadcasting Corporation.

'That's Mine'

Her father mentioned it to her by chance, described the painting, and said: "Oh! That is mine. I did it at school." Then she added: "But don't tell them, please don't tell them." Today Mrs. Hennessy, wife of a bricklayer, said: "We were all very thrilled. Of course I have never been to a ball in my life."

"But last Christmas my husband brought me my first evening dress to go to a local function. Maria was terribly impressed by it and could talk of nothing else for weeks. She wants to be a dress designer."

Now a photograph of Maria's painting in duck in her sketch book is the pride of a number of portraits of the mother she adores which include "Mummy at the Fishshop," "Mummy doing the Washing," and "Mummy by the Christmas Tree." Mrs. Hennessy does not know yet what her daughter's price will be. "But she says she would like a Pekingese dog more than anything else." Today a Japanese Embassy spokesman said Maria was placed 95th in the competi-

Duke Loses Escort At Fair

Copenhagen, Oct. 13. THE Duke of Edinburgh was surrounded by excited Danes today on a visit to the engineering section of the British trade exhibition in Copenhagen.

They frequently separated him from his entourage as he made his way around stands, stopping here and there to chat with officials and discover how British goods are selling in Denmark.

The Duke, on the second day of a five-day visit to Denmark, showed keen interest in an anti-rolling device designed for smaller ships. Plastics also attracted his attention.

A portrait of the Queen caught the Duke's eye on a photographic stand. "It is very good of her," he said.

The Danish newspaper Ekstra-Bladet commented today that the Duke's unofficial visit was being made too formal. "We must hope that he will be able to escape from the officials who follow him around during the visit and be able to walk at ease round the British exhibition to see the British goods on display," it said.

Luncheon

The Duke spent 90 minutes at the exhibition before returning to the Royal yacht Frederik and Queen Ingrid of Denmark to lunch.

Other members of the Danish Royal Family and Government leaders, diplomats and officials of the Federation of British Industries attended the lunch.

In the afternoon he inspected British yachts moored in the harbour here to display marine engineering products. The Duke was giving a cocktail party aboard the Britannia before going to Rosenborg Castle tonight to take the salute at the final performance of the British military tattoo which more than 200,000 Danes have seen.

Tomorrow he will meet British residents at the British Centre in Copenhagen and attend a dinner given in his honour by the Federation of British Industries. The Duke will spend the weekend with the Danish Royal Family at Fredensborg, outside Copenhagen, before flying to Germany on Monday.—Reuter.

ANGLO-SOVIET NAVAL VISITS

Riotous Welcome For R.N. Sailors

By Sidney Weiland

Leningrad, Oct. 13.

Thousands of Russians, excited and friendly, gave a riotous welcome today to British sailors from the aircraft carrier Triumph and five other warships when they landed for their first shore leave in a unique goodwill visit.

This is the first big-scale visit of the kind by the Royal Navy since the Bolshevik revolution and the crowds surging across the city gave the British a reception of such warmth as they can seldom have experienced in a foreign port.

Everywhere they went in groups of two or three on foot or in organised bus tours of the city they were followed by the laughing Russians anxious to talk, exchange photographs and autographs and to shake them by the hand.

The scene was unprecedented in Leningrad and was one of the greatest spontaneous demonstrations in genuinely friendly feeling for foreign visitors seen here since the Communists came to power 38 years ago.

Reminiscent

Observers said it was reminiscent of the reception British ships got in European ports on their missions of liberation in 1944 and 1945.

The ships, led by the 13,350-ton Triumph and under the command of Admiral Sir Michael Denny, arrived last night and are staying six days.

The crowd swelled this evening to hundreds of thousands. At nightfall the British ships were illuminated and the band of the Royal Marines was playing in a Leningrad park.

When 750 sailors and officers from Triumph and other British ships left the ship today, a crowd of at least 200 blocking his way back to the ship said: "A man from Mars landed in England I think he would attract the same attention."

Like The English

Russian women on a pleasure steamer lying alongside the Triumph shouted in English "We like the English people."

A lieutenant from the destroyer Diana surrounded by a crowd of at least 200 blocking his way back to the ship said: "A man from Mars landed in England I think he would attract the same attention."

It is extraordinary.

Meanwhile in London a party of Russian naval officers sight-seeing today had little interest in the normal round of tourist attractions—they wanted to see an American.

To see a real live American they intimated to their guides, would be the highlight of a visit to the West.

The guides stalked potential Americans around London's West End.

It was not easy—most of the tourists have gone home and the close season for Americans is beginning.

But they found an obvious American tourist after the Russians had dutifully photographed Pleschadsky Circus and fed the pigeons in Trafalgar Square.

The Russians gaped at the anonymous American and drank in the sight to imprint his features on their memories.

Their guides recalled their one comment later—they were behaving himself so well.

The party of Russian officers came from six Soviet warships now paying a goodwill visit to Britain.

Had Tea

Twelve of them and Admiral Arseni Golovko, of the squadron, had tea this afternoon with Lord Mayor, Sir Seymour Howard.

The other Russian seamen, however, showed little interest in Americans.

Their tourist interests appeared to run in this order: 1. Nylon stockings; 2. Ball point pens; 3. Safety razors and blades; 4. Souvenir scarves; 5. Women's silk underwear.

There the Russians bought nylon stockings at the rate of five pairs a minute in a store specially set up for them in Portsmouth Dockyard.

The store sold out its stock of 45 dozen pairs of nylons in 90 minutes.

An assistant said: "There was a terrific demand for nylons especially the ones with 'fancy heels'."

The Russians did not appear to have enough money to buy the more expensive gifts. One of their officers, Senior Lieutenant Andrew Marchenko, said: "The sailors are not able to obtain safety razors very easily. That's why they are buying them here. Most of the other gifts are for their wives and sweethearts in Russia."

The store sold far more goods than it expected but the assistants had one embarrassment.

The proprietor said later: "Many of the Russians were for good morning. It was a pretty long morning because I don't think any of them learned the Russian for good afternoon."

Soccer Match

Late this afternoon a soccer team drawn from the Russians drew one goal each with a team of British naval seamen in Portsmouth.

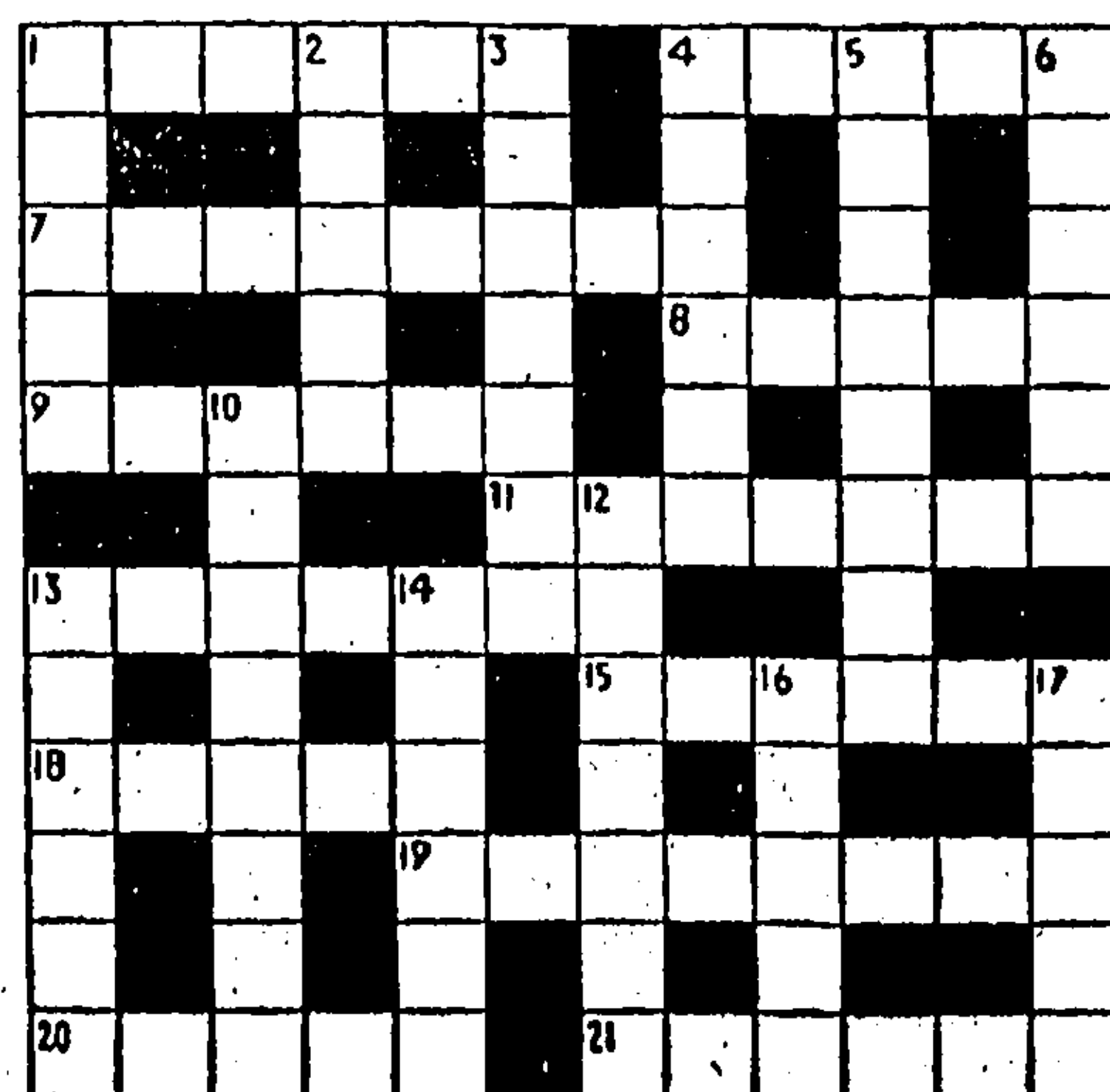
A crowd of 5,000—including 2,500 British and 1,000 Soviet

Ah! Greetings Signor



Greetings for Venetian gondolier Luigi Fasato, right, from London waterman Dick Phelps, after Signor Fasato arrived at London Airport with three other Venetian gondoliers to attend the premiere of the film "Summer Madness". Signor Fasato was personal gondolier to Princess Margaret during her visit to Italy. Mr Phelps is Queen's Waterman and an Olympic sculler. "Summer Madness", which stars Katharine Hepburn and new Italian star Romano Battaglia, was filmed entirely in Venice.—Daily Express Photo.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- 1 Veto (6).
 - 4 Cleopatra's land (5).
 - 7 Bentry (8).
 - 9 Slink (5).
 - 10 Spiritualist meeting (6).
 - 11 Realised (7).
 - 13 Luck (7).
 - 15 Humbled (6).
 - 16 Correct (5).
 - 19 Turned into cash (8).
 - 20 Tax (5).
 - 21 Threefold (6).
- DOWN
- 1 Abstains from food (5).
 - 2 Staff (3).
 - 3 Underground cell (7).
 - 4 Equine gut (6).
 - 5 Ratifies (8).
 - 6 Stretch (6).
 - 8 Overbearing (8).
 - 12 Countryman (7).
 - 13 Fall to remember (6).
 - 14 Felon (6).
 - 15 Spry (5).
 - 17 Trick (6).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1 Code, 4 Message, 8 Moor, 9 Lamb, 10 Doctors, 11 Area, 12 Tent, 14 Leaves, 17 Alliance, 18 Tribe, 22 Ensigns, 23 Elin, 27 Tint, 28 Ripped, 29 Urns, 30 Near, 31 Polls, 32 Nude, Down: 1 Enamel, 3 Embark, 4 Model, 5 Erodes, 6 Sales, 7 Gorge, 12 Tale, 13 Aids, 15 Evil, 16 Seen, 18 Intent, 20 Return, 21 Banned, 23 Nerve, 24 Ideal, 25 Slick.

Jordan River Project Review

Jerusalem, Oct. 13.

Mr. Eric Johnston, President Eisenhower's special envoy to the Middle East, today conferred here with Mr. Moshe Sharett, Israeli Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Their talk, attended by Israeli irrigation experts, dealt with Mr. Johnston's plan for joint Israeli-Arab use of the waters of the Jordan and Yarmouk rivers in a vast irrigation and hydro-electric project.

The special envoy has been attempting to get the support of Israel, Jordan, Syria and the Lebanon for the project for the last two years.—France-Press.

American Legion Objects To India Aid

Miami, Oct. 13.

The American Legion's national convention today adopted a resolution, proposed by its Foreign Relations Committee, which "deplores the continuing economic aid given by the United States to India."

"That country, although professing neutrality is actually giving material aid to Communist Russia," states the resolution.

"So long as India continues to aid and abet Red Russia, our Government should refuse to give any material aid of any kind to India," the resolution adds.—France-Press.

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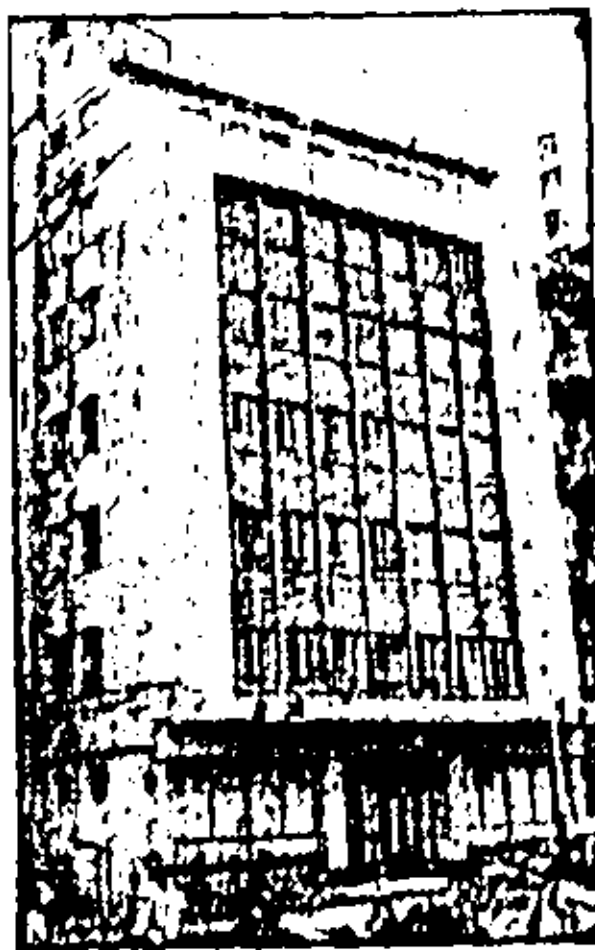
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WITNESS FOR THE DEFENCE

Reporting the strangest human story
of the week: HOW A WIDOW OF 71

AND A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG BRITISH

ACTRESS TOGETHER RELIVE—

A Murder of the Century



Joan Collins in New York this week... on her way home to London after making the film in which she plays...

IN a week when the word "witness" is much headlined comes this strange and moving human situation in New York.

• EVELYN NESBIT THAW, a woman of 71 who, 50 years ago, was a witness for her husband in one of the great murder trials of the century, has emerged from the past to revisit the scene of that half-forgotten crime.

In her purse: fifty thousand dollars, given her by a Hollywood company which is now filming her story.

• JOAN COLLINS, the young and voluptuous British actress, plays the part of Mrs Thaw in the film.

This week Joan Collins also is in New York... Today GEORGE GALE and RONALD SINGLETON further telescope time to tell you the story of Evelyn Thaw.

• EVELYN NESBIT was a poor Pennsylvania girl whose beauty made her the model for Charles Dana Gibson's most famous drawing, "The Eternal Question."

Her mother brought her to New York — the brash and brassy New York of the 1900's. She danced in "Florodora." John Barrymore said: "No one can hold a candle to the beauty of that girl."

YOUNG WIFE'S STORY
OF HER TERRIBLE
EXPERIENCE
—
DRAMATIC SCENE.

THAW CASE HEADLINES
... DAILY EXPRESS, 1905.

They rented a German castle; stayed at Claridges.

Mad Harry married Evelyn; and Mad Harry learned of Stanford White—and the red velvet swing...

On June 25, 1906, "Mam'zelle Champagne" was opening at the Madison Square Roof Garden, in New York—lusher, plushier, more golden than it is now.

Champagne corks were popping. Six girls on the stage were dancing. The song was: "I could love a million girls."

Alone—for once—at a table sat Stanford White, the great architect. At another table sat Evelyn Nesbit, now Evelyn Thaw, his wife. She passed Thaw a note: "The dirty blackguard is here."

Thaw's party got up to leave. Thaw dawdled behind them, paused by Stanford White's



FOR HER: THE DOLLARS

table, pulled out a revolver and shot White; once through his left eye, once through his mouth, once through his shoulder.

Evelyn turned... and saw White tumble to the floor.

★ ★ ★

THE trial was the sensation of the year; of the decade. Evelyn Thaw was the sensation of the trial.

In the crowded courtroom Thaw's family had collected the most persuasive lawyers of the day. The prosecutor was William Travers Jerome, handsome, precise, cousin of Winston Churchill—and, as district attorney, a man with a mission to clean up New York.

The defence was insanity. The key witness Evelyn Nesbit Thaw.

She told about the red velvet swing. She also told how her husband had forced her to tell him all about her seduction by Stanford White.

"Mr White asked me to come to see the back room, and he went through some curtains. The back room was a bedroom. I sat down at the table, a tiny little table. There was a bottle of champagne, a small bottle, and one glass. Mr White picked up the bottle and poured the glass full of champagne."

"I don't know whether it was a minute or two or after, but a pounding began in my ear, a something and pounding, then the whole room seemed to go round. Everything got very black."

"When I awoke I was lying in a room whose walls and ceiling were covered with many mirrors. As consciousness returned, I screamed repeatedly. Mr White came into the room and tried to quieten me. He got down on his knees beside me and, picked up the ends of my dress and kissed it. I do not know how I got home."

This, said the defence, was what had happened on and on in Mad Harry's mind until, five years later, and insane, he shot White in the Gardens.

The jury could not agree. A second trial acquitted Thaw, but found him insane. He was taken to a State asylum.

... Evelyn Nesbit Thaw. And this is Mrs. Thaw in New York this week... unwrinkled at 71.

Evelyn slowly fell from fame. She had a son, she said, by Thaw; but he denied paternity. She worked in dance halls and honky tonks.

She met Thaw again in 1926. By then she had married a dance partner, but he deserted her. She twice tried to kill herself. But there was no reconciliation with Thaw.

By the 'thirties she was a night-club hostess in Chicago. Then she took up sculpting and moved into obscurity in California.

★ ★ ★

NOW Evelyn Thaw has 50,000 dollars for reliving, for the films, that night in the Gardens. She has her granchild. She has also her wisdom.

"Perhaps I learned the greatest thing a soul can know," she said this week as she stood looking at the rebuilt Madison Square Garden, "Compassion. Cars, jewels, clothes, houses, mean nothing to me," she said.

"I was sorry for my husband poor, tormented thing that he was even though his murder of Stanford White destroyed me."

Destroyed her? This trim, arch-typical American grandmother, unwrinkled at 71?

"Harry Thaw killed the man I once loved. Men can be beasts, but Stanford White was a brilliant, kind and fascinating man."

"I know a lot about sin. Sins of the flesh are not the great ones—the greatest evil is not to love and to hurt others. 'I have no resentment—that's why I have no wrinkles.'"

★ ★ ★

EVELYN THAW turned from Madison Square Garden and walked across the avenue. Yellow taxis swarmed about her; the New York crowd finally obscured her.

And the crowd shuffled past the neat rows of glossy magazines on the news stands, past the colour picture of Joan Collins as Mrs Thaw on the cover of the one called... Life.

CHINA'S POPULATION POSES PROBLEMS

By Stephen Garnett

THE population of China, according to the 1953 census, the details of which were officially released in November 1954, is now more than 600 million, that is 30 per cent higher than the total which had until then been generally accepted. It is reached by including 7½ million or so for Formosa and nearly 12 million as the estimated number of Overseas Chinese. By this means Peking asserts her claim to speak in the name of a quarter of the earth's population.

It would be an even stranger world than it is if the prestige of nations or governments or systems were computed by such mathematics. Switzerland, for example, would come off very poorly, and the Constitution of the United Nations would be destroyed.

But no authoritarian regime has ever been proof against the temptation to triumph in the number of its subjects. Both Hitler and Mussolini coupled their claims to colonial space with rewards to prolific mothers who showed the way to fill it.

What limit?

The Soviet Union also promoted the institution of "hero-mothers," and when the Russian campaign for colonising the "virgin lands" of Central Asia was getting into its stride, Khrushchev, in January 1955, gave an official send-off to a batch of reclamation recruits with the words: "If another hundred million were added to our population of two hundred million, even that would not be enough."

The official Chinese declaration of the census figure was expressed by the People's Daily of November 1, 1954 when it declared: "This not only shows that China has a powerful force to build Socialism, but also demonstrates that she has the power to defend peace in Asia and the world."

Without extending that declaration too closely, the question next arises: If 600 million is a sufficient and appropriate

figure for the execution of the Communist programme, what about the two per cent increase—12 million a year—by which the population is advancing and is expected to continue to advance? Is there any desirable limit?

In Communist theory there seems to be none. The newest (1954) edition of the Large Soviet Encyclopedia continues to dismiss Malthusianism, or the advocacy of restricting population as "reactionary ravings." It is, in fact, a pre-malthusian view which Communists prefer, the view held in Western Europe in the early eighteenth century that every labouring man increases the wealth of the community.

Birth control

Faithfully echoing this, the People's Daily declares that in China, as in the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, people are free of the "most precious" of all the categories of capital.

At the international conference of population experts, held in Rome in 1954, the Communist representatives had nothing to contribute but the dogma that Communist economies could meet the problem of hunger in any size—a position hardly justified either by the long Russian or by the short Chinese experience.

How, then, are we to interpret recent moves in China to introduce and publicise scientific methods of birth control? One answer that has been suggested is that Mr Attlee and the British Labour Party delegation, during their 1954 visit, had some influence in drawing official attention to the effect on living standards of a large and uncontrolled yearly increase in population.

But Mr Attlee himself wrote that the Chinese Government resisted all ideas of this kind, that they regarded a large population as desirable in itself and from the viewpoint of production, and that their attitude, in general was "disturbing."

In fact, new developments were already under way. But they do not yet amount to a

change of doctrine. At the National People's Congress in September 1954, there was a single and inconspicuous speech advocating the spread of medical knowledge of birth control among the people. It was made by the 73-year-old Shao Li-tsu, who is not a Communist and, indeed, had been prominent in the earlier Kuomintang administration.

A brave man, some have said, and Shao Li-tsu may be that. But this was not a matter of defiance, for Shao Li-tsu himself revealed that the Ministry of Hygiene had since July been concerned with the subject.

Not only the cautious orthodoxy of his own statements, but other propaganda for the knowledge of birth control which has since been appearing, make it clear that it is the principles of Lenin and the experience of Soviet Russia which count in this field as in others.

It is noteworthy that Lenin, when he called upon "class-conscious workers" to resist the principle of population control as a means to better living standards, also promoted the legalisation of abortion in revolutionary Russia. Quite evidently this step was taken because of the large number of women who already had recourse to abortion by secret and often dangerous means.

Parallel policy

The history of this and other methods of birth control in Soviet Russia, changeable and often confusing as it has been, has always run parallel with a State policy of maintaining or increasing the birthrate. Between 1936 and 1944, after a great deal of discussion—much of it public—new legislation in the USSR abolished legal abortion (except in very limited conditions), made divorce more difficult, and generally favoured the production of children, whether inside or outside marriage, by extended State provisions.

The theory still holds that a future perfection is in sight in which "Soviet marriage" will be a peculiarly blessed condition unattainable elsewhere.

But the road is far from clear, even to the theorists: and meanwhile the State's requirements must be met.

The truth is that nearly everything concerned with the procreation and birth of a child, insofar as it is subject to human agency, is decided by factors which have nothing to do with the class war or with any centralised planning commission.

Individual motives for the widespread use of birth control in the West (and it is in individual motives that matter) are not necessarily so discernible as they have sometimes been made to appear. The idea of a better chance for the offspring of a small family operates more powerfully than the idea of a better time for the parents.

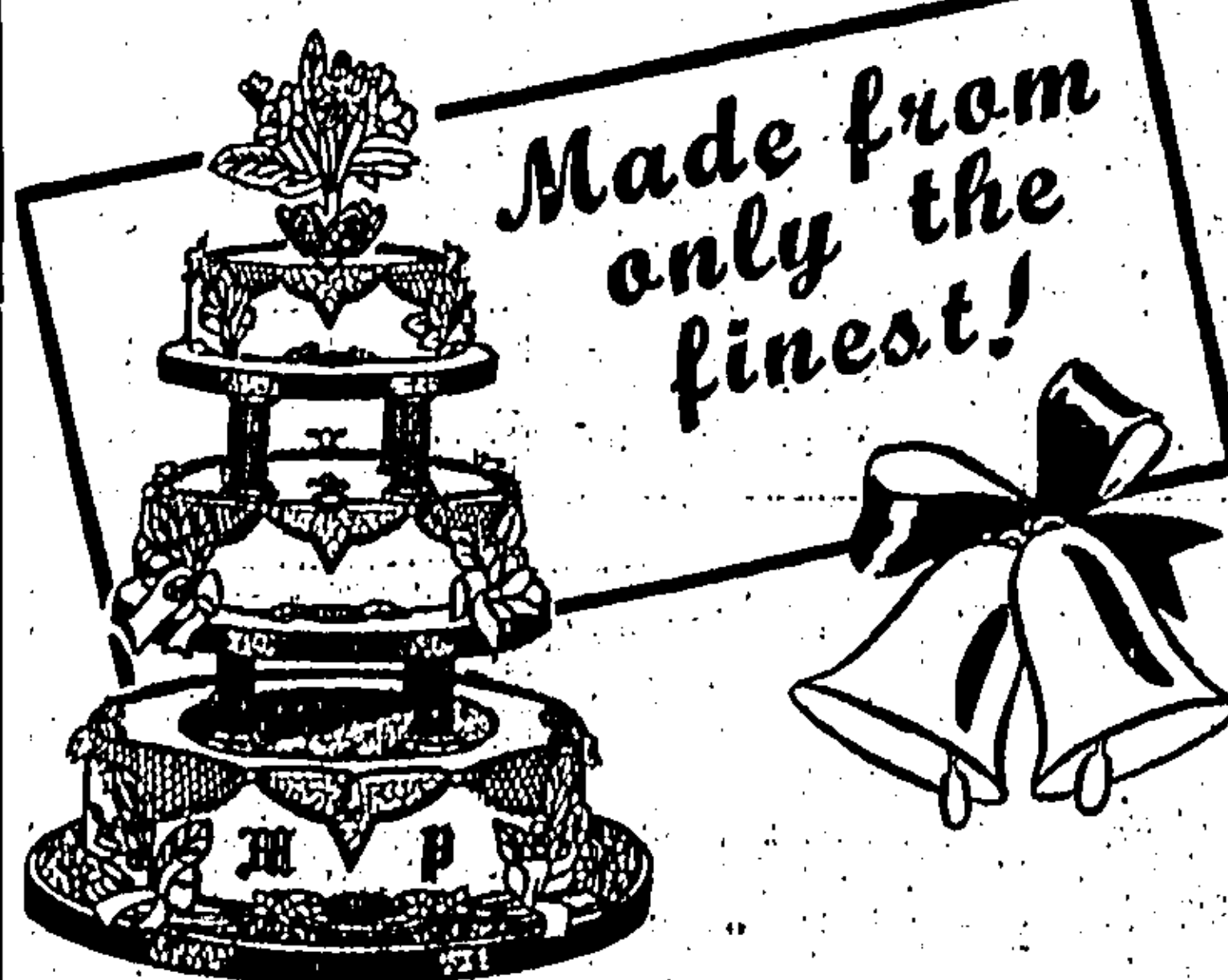
Changed lives

What does not operate in this intimate human decision is the idea of solving the problems left unsolved by Marx and Engels.

It may be doubted whether it operates very strongly even under conditions of thought-reform. In "New China's Women" the "correct" approach to birth control has been put forward by a writer who states boldly: "All parents hope that their children will be robust youngsters, so that they may become strong builders of Socialism." Do they, even in China?

There may be some truth in the assertion that the desire for the knowledge and means of spacing childbirth in accordance with circumstances is an urgent demand of the masses. But it is not masses that have children; it is men and women.

The lives of many of them in China, perhaps especially of the women, are being changed. The State cannot put women into factories without discovering, as the writer in "New China's Women" concedes, that "those who take part in production would feel it all the more difficult to look after their maternal health and carry on their work at the same time." But the State and the system may not have the final word in what "production" means.



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Hongkong, 14th Oct., 1955.

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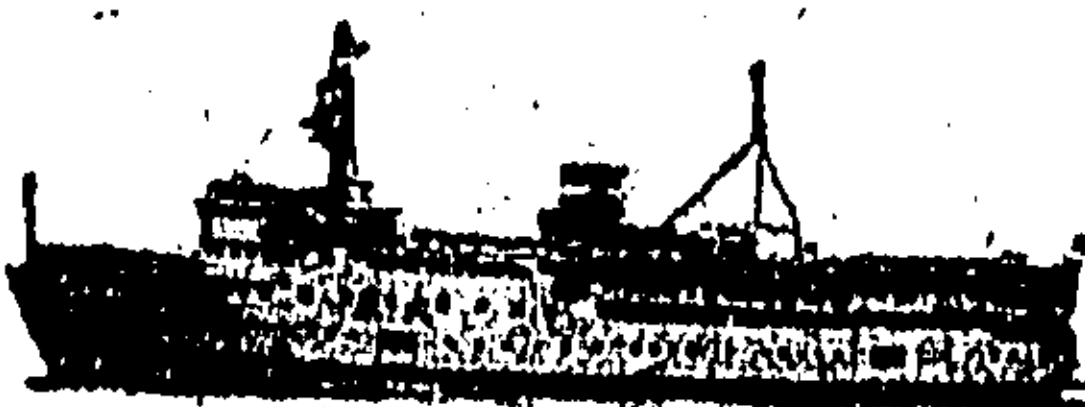
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PRAGUE'S WENCESLAS SQUARE GIVEN A 'NEW LOOK'

Prague, Oct. 13.

Three big, modern buildings going up on war-damaged sites in Prague's Wenceslas Square will give a "new look" to this 600-year-old thoroughfare of the Czechoslovak capital.

Building gangs working day and night this summer have completed the ferro-concrete shell of a seven-storey department store at the upper end of the square, which is actually a long, sloping, tree-lined boulevard, nearly half a mile long and about 195 feet wide.

Behind a screen of wooden fencing and scaffolding they are now installing electricity, water, gas, central heating and other interior fittings.

The store, about 100 feet high and situated on the corner of a side street, is expected to open next spring.

Diagonally opposite to it, on another corner at the top of the square, builders are laying the foundations of a four-storey food and provision store, expected to be completed next autumn.

In the middle of the roadway, between the sites, stands a statue of Good King Wenceslas of the Christmas carol looking out on horse back over the busy, noisy thoroughfare which bears his name.

NEW HOTEL

About 200 yards further down, on the same side as the food store, the biggest of the new buildings, an eight-storey hotel scheduled to be finished next autumn, is gradually taking shape.

All three buildings are being erected on former sites of blocks of shops, offices and flats destroyed by bombs and shells when the citizens of Prague rose in revolt against German occupying troops in the closing days of World War II, in May 1945.

In addition to filling gaps in the rows of tall, grey, brown, green and biscuit-colored buildings, some cupped by domes and small spires, stretching the whole length of the square the new structure will add a fresh tone to its characteristic blend of ancient and modern.

This is typified by an 18th century building, with delicate, rose-tinged paintings on its walls, rubbing shoulders with a modern office block, and another old, narrow-fronted three-storey house huddled next to a department store.

In the roadway, sleek, modern, foreign cars, shining new Skoda taxis, black Tatras with their "shark's fins" on their rear engine covers, and powerful 1930 vintage Czechoslovak, German and French cars, some with gas cylinders still strapped on the back, former German army Volkswagens, and occasionally a clip-clopping horse-drawn cab, called a drozka.

BOTH SIDES

Low, single-deck, red and white tramcars crawl, grinding and clanging, all day up and down and across the square. Planners hope in the future to replace them completely by buses. But no date has been fixed yet for this.

Hotels, cafes, snack bars, bookshops, offices and cinemas line both sides of the square with labyrinths of winding passages and arcade leading off between them to neighbouring streets.

Newspaper and cigarette kiosks, flower sellers and bootblacks are dotted along the pavements in the shade of the scores of leafy lime trees lining its edge. Street cameramen take "walking snaps" among the slow-moving crowds which throng the square from morning until early evening.

The trees were originally planted in the middle of the

square between clusters of street lamps, but they were moved to the pavements to make way for tramway tracks more than 50 years ago.

At night, the aroma of sizzling meat rises from sausage stalls lit by hurricane lamps and the blare of a dance band or a crooner's song drifts through the open window of a cafe.

LOOKS DINGY

Rather dull street lighting tends to make the square look dingy after dark, but this is partially offset by splashes of red, green, blue and yellow neon signs along its lower half. A red star shines on the roof of a newspaper office. Across the street a golden coronet glitters outside a snack bar. Another snack bar's sign is a giant glass of beer with a creamy white top. The names of state trading corporations shine from building walls and sometimes slogans fit across an illuminated screen.

The square was built as a horse market in 1348 by one of the greatest Czech kings, Charles IV, who became Holy Roman Emperor. It retained the name of Horse Market for 500 years, although it ceased to be used as such in the 17th century and its surroundings were gradually built up.

It was re-named Wenceslas Square in Czech, Václavské Náměstí in 1848. Wenceslas, whose Czech name was Václav, ruled Bohemia in the tenth century and is the patron Saint of Czechoslovakia.—China Mail Special.



Composer Earl

London, Oct. 13.
 The Earl of Harewood, cousin of the Queen, will this month join the ranks of composers when he introduces a new series of musical programmes for the British Broadcasting Corporation.

An opera enthusiast, he will present the first six of a series of weekly concerts known as "Musical Remembrance"—and they will be mainly about opera.—China Mail Special.

Persia Welcomed To Pact

Tehran, Oct. 13.

Britain officially welcomed Persia's decision to join the Turco-Iraqi defence pact in a message delivered to the Persian Prime Minister, Mr. Hussein Ala, by the British Charge d'Affaires, Mr. John Kitchener. The message said the decision was "most welcome" to the British Government.—Reuter.

Marilyn-Shaped Aircraft

The Marilyn Monroe look pays off in supersonic aircraft design as well as in Hollywood. US plane manufacturers are discovering. By giving aircrafts a "wasp waist" engineers have succeeded in increasing the speed of planes and of making them slip more smoothly past the tricky sound barrier. Prototypes pictured above show what a design looks like after the new waist has been added. Left is the straight fuselage style Convair YF-102, right, the nipped-waist production design F-102A all-weather jet interceptor. Engineers found that by pinching in the fuselage where the wings are attached they reduced drag caused by body area and souped-up the speed of the craft. The F-102A, now in general production at San Diego, California, is the US Air Force's first all-weather interceptor, and is designed to intercept enemy bombers at stratospheric altitudes, day or night.—Express Photo.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office. The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS
 On Monday, October 17, 1955 the public counters at G.P.O. and G.P.O. Kowloon will open for public business from 9 a.m. to noon. The Sheungwan Post Office will open from 9 a.m. to noon for sale of postage stamps only and all other Branch Offices will be closed.
 The private box lobbies at G.P.O. and G.P.O. Kowloon will open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sheungwan from 9 a.m. to noon and Wanchai from 10 a.m. to noon only.
 There will be one delivery commencing at 10 a.m. and one collection from all pillar boxes.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14
 By Air
 Formosa, 6 p.m.
 Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
 Korea, 6 p.m.
 Japan, 6 p.m.
 Canada, 6 p.m.
 By Surface
 Thailand, 4 p.m.
 Macao, 6 p.m.

Egypt Abolishes Religious Courts

REVOLUTIONARY STEP

Cairo, Oct. 13.

Egypt's Revolution Government led by Lieutenant-Colonel Gamal Abdel Nasser has abolished the whole system of Shar'i'a and non-Moslem religious courts in Egypt, and ordered the transfer of all cases of personal status, including marriage, divorce, care of children and inheritance as well as Waqfs or charitable foundations, to the national civil courts.

As from next January, all religious courts will be closed, and Egypt will become the first Arab country without Shar'i'a courts, once the supreme legal bodies of all Moslem states.

The new law also orders the abolition of the Coptic and other Christian courts as well as the Rabbinical courts which were maintained by non-Moslem minorities in Egypt.

The Egyptian Government has thus, at one sweeping stroke, ended the existence as an independent body of a judicial institution which has functioned in its antiquated, often chaotic, way since the Arab conquest in the seventh century.

Community Regime

The community regime has existed in the Middle East since the beginning of the Christian era, when the various sects had their own laws for dealing with the lives and property of their members, regardless of the State laws. It survived through centuries of foreign occupation, from the Persians, Romans, Arabs, Turks, Mamelukes, French and British, from Alexander the Great, Mark Antony, Napoleon and Kitchener, down to the present day. Islam inherited this system and allowed the various Christian and Jewish communities to conduct their own affairs and deal with their own members according to their own laws as long as they paid

allegiance to the Moslem state, together with the "zakat" (tribute).

In early times, Shar'i'a qadis (judges) dealt with all kinds of cases, both civil and criminal. The Shar'i'a, which is technically the canon law of Islam, has been a predominant influence in the Moslem history, for among Moslem thinkers, law and religion have always been inextricably linked. Before the rise of the Ottoman empire, there was almost no state legislation in Moslem countries, and Islamic scholarship, social affairs and even literature were profoundly affected by the ideals of the Shar'i'a.

Throughout Islam, however, the practical power of the Shar'i'a courts has been gradually whittled away.

Limited Competence

In Egypt, their competence had become limited to cases of personal status and for some time now, there have been complaints that there was no clear demarcation between the spheres of jurisdiction of the Shar'i'a courts and courts of other denominations. There have been frequent cases of sudden "conversions" to Islam, because the judicial procedure of this authority, particularly in the case of divorce, was easy.

Supreme authority, it was felt in Egypt, was long due to end the chaotic litigation of the many different religious courts; the ambiguities which were misleading even to the experts, and which, because of political influences, were always liable to misinterpretation to the detriment of an innocent party.

Many of these courts lacked archives of precedent. There have been contradictory judgments and people went from one court to another when the findings of the first were not favourable. The execution of justice was often thus forestalled indefinitely.

Non-Moslems themselves had as many as fourteen different courts, some of which met only very occasionally and in distant places. Their judgments varied according to their religious, the holy books in Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Assyrian, Armenian and Coptic languages.

It is not the intention of the Egyptian Government at present to abandon Islamic law or the laws of the various non-Moslem communities as authorities in cases of personal status. In future, though such cases will be heard in the ordinary civil courts, Shar'i'a qadis, or appropriate non-Moslem judges, will sit with the civil judges to hear the cases, and Shar'i'a lawyers will be authorised to plead at such hearings.

Law Unchanged

For the various Coptic sects, Roman Catholics, Greek Orthodox, Protestants, including Anglicans, Jews and every other religious denomination, the law also stand unchanged. But, as in the case of the Moslems, the authority of the Government will be the supreme security. On January 1, 1956, justice will be rendered in civil courts in the name of "God the all merciful" for Moslems, Christians and Jews alike.

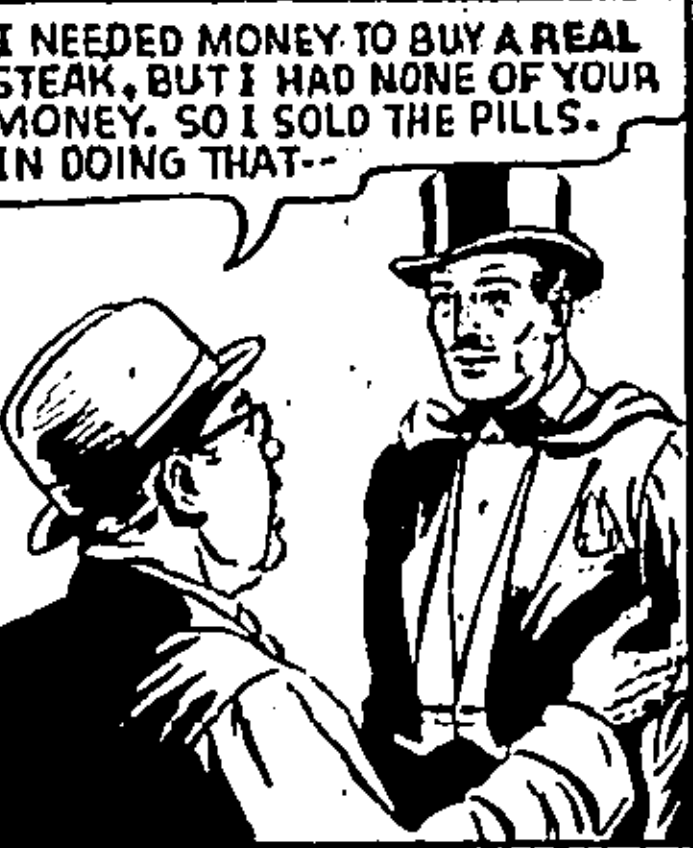
The more modern legislations went an unaltered civil code for all. But in a country still profoundly Islamic that is still a long way off.—China Mail Special.

MORE PRISONERS RELEASED

Bonn, Oct. 13.
 A group of 698 former German prisoners of war today arrived at the Friedland reception camp. The released prisoners came from the Soviet prison camp at Sverdlovsk. The Soviet authorities were reported by the returning prisoners to have gathered some 7,000 German war prisoners in the Sverdlovsk region who are expected to be repatriated before October 18.—France Press.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



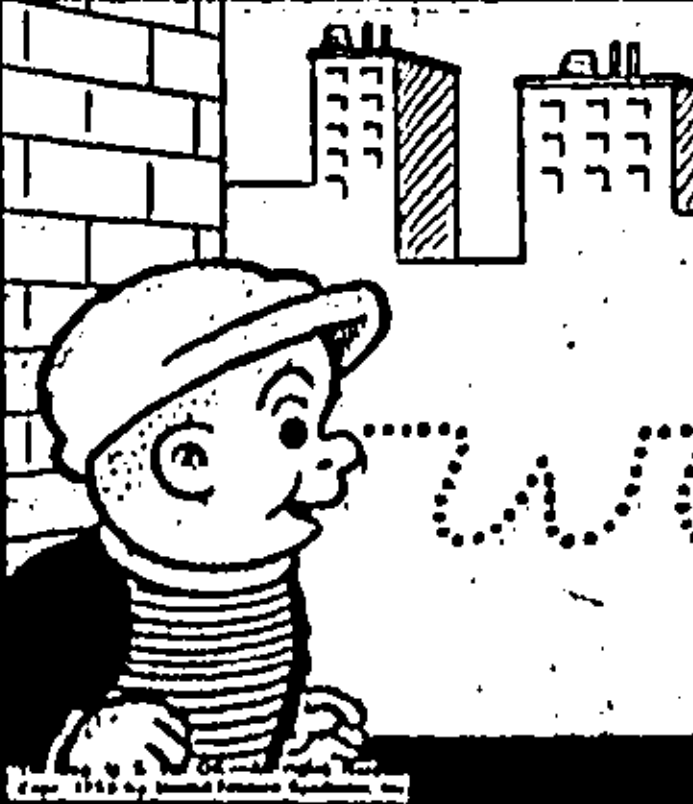
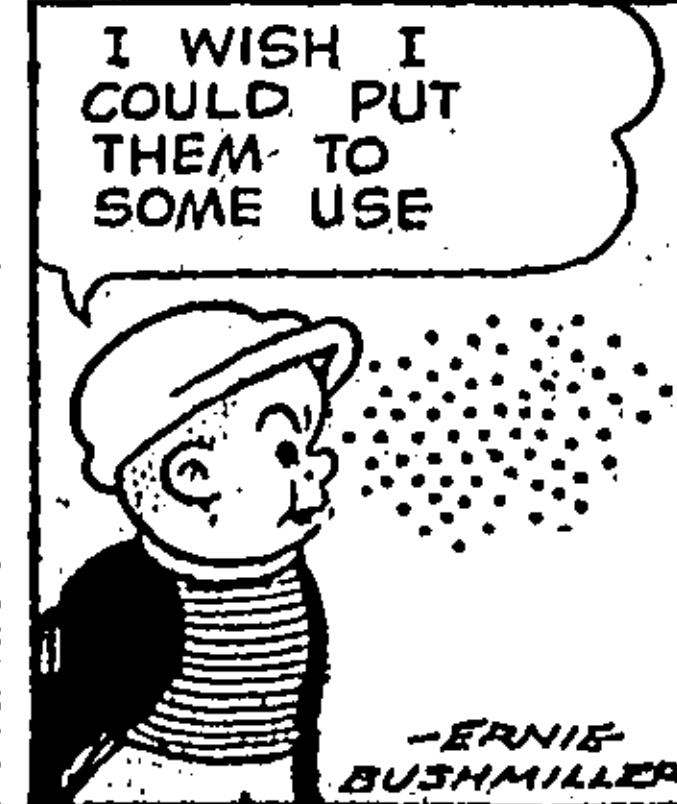
FERD'NAND

By Mik



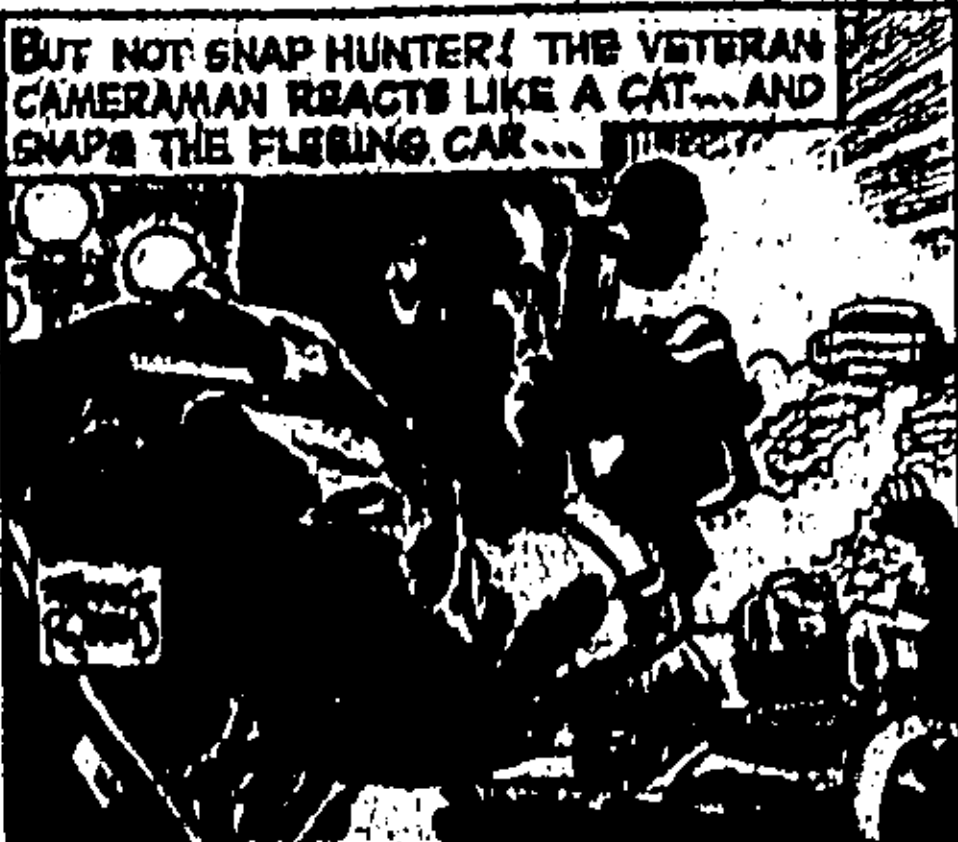
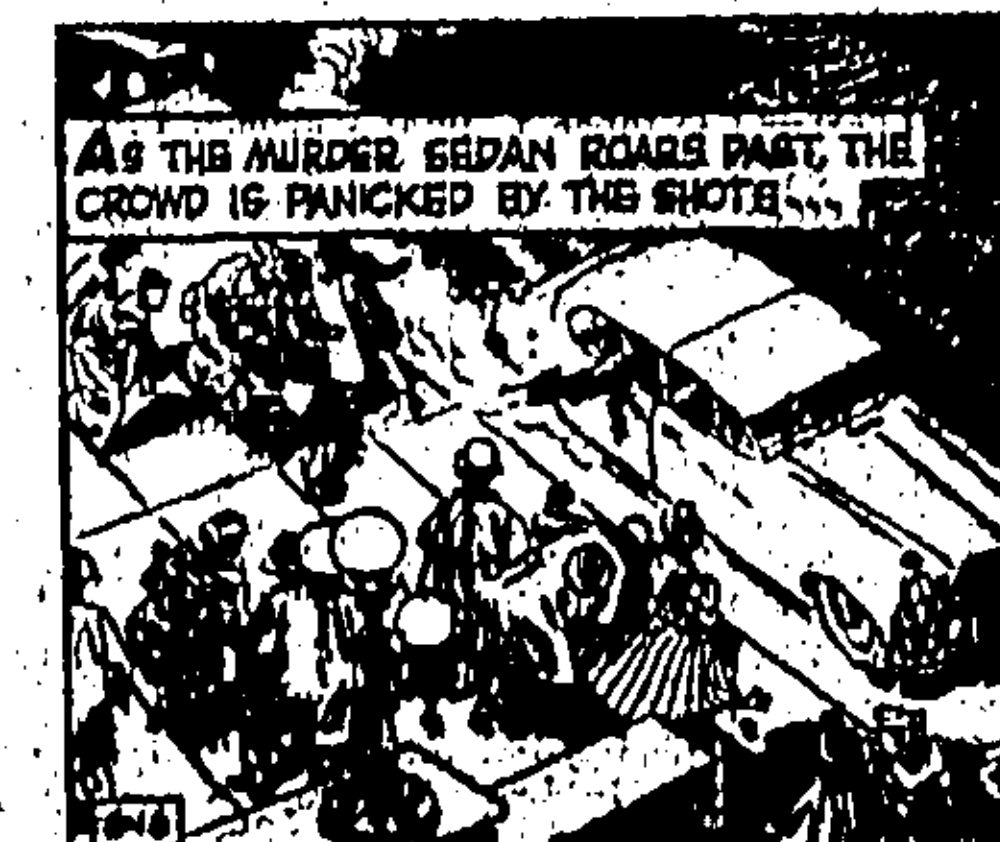
NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



Treasurer's Failure To Ease Depreciation Rates Not Helping Industry

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE

"PEIHO" +	sailing Oct. 17th
"INDUS" +	sailing Nov. 7th
+ accept cargo for Hamburg.	

